#### CITY of SAN DIEGO MEMORANDUM

FILE NO:

430

DATE:

September 28, 1990

T0:

John C. Smith, Police Officer II, I.D. #4047

FROM:

Bob Burgreen, Chief of Police

SUBJECT:

Notice of Suspension

This memo is being hand delivered to advise you that you are being suspended from your employment with the City of San Diego for the period of twenty (20) working days (200 hours) effective (100 Section). Prior to making this decision, you were given written notice of the grounds for this action by Captain J. B. Sing on (100 Section). You were further given an opportunity to respond to these charges, and as a part of the response, you waived your pre-discipline (Skelly) hearing on (100 Section).

On July 4, 1990, at 2230 hours, you were involved in a police equipment accident while driving equipment number 1207. You were driving on a simulated island and struck the raised median. In addition, you were operating your emergency equipment in an inappropriate manner. After the collision you failed to properly report the accident.

When the accident was discovered and investigated on July 6, 1990, you made untruthful written and verbal statements to your immediate supervisor, and the investigating Traffic officers. Based on this information inaccurate reports were prepared.

On August 15, 1990, the Fleet Safety Sergeant ruled that your accident on July 4, 1990, was "Preventable, Category 3."

Therefore, based on the information available to me, I believe a suspension from duty is appropriate for the following reasons:

You have violated Civil Service Rule XI, Section 3(d), in that you violated the following lawful or official regulations:

- A. Department Policy 1.12, IV, A., Operation of Police Vehicles, in that you failed to notify Communications that you were involved in a police equipment accident.
- B. Department Policy 1.12, E., Operation of Police Vehicles, in that you failed to fill out form RM-1551, Vehicle Accident Report, within 24 hours of the collision.
- C. Department Policy 1.13, III, B 2, and 3, Emergency Vehicle Operation, in that you were operating your emergency lights and siren in an inappropriate manner.

September , 1990 John C. Smith, Police Officer II, I.D. #4047 Notice of Suspension Page 2

- D. Department Policy 9.3, Obedience to Laws, in that while operating the official police vehicle you were in violation of Vehicle Code Sections 22651(A), driving through a simulated island, and 22350, speed for conditions.
- E. Department Policy 9.28, Department Reports, in that you failed to submit your daily journal in a timely manner, and that your original ARJIS-9 and RM-1551 reports concerning the collision contained false information.
- F. Department Policy 9.29, Truthfulness, in that you gave untruthful written and verbal statements to your immediate supervisor and investigating Traffic officers. These untruthful statements resulted in inaccurate police reports being filed.

Previous disciplinary actions include:



You are hereby notified that any further instances of misconduct may result in more serious disciplinary action, including termination.

In accordance with Civil Service Rule XI, you have the right to appeal to the Civil Service Commission. If you wish to make this appeal, it must be done within five (5) working days after receipt of this notice. Your request for appeal must be in writing and must be delivered to the Personnel Director or his designated alternate within the five-day appeal period. The Personnel Director's Office is located on the ninth floor of the City Administration Building, 202 "C" Street, San Diego, California 92101.

A failure to submit said written demand to the Civil Service Commission within five (5) working days after receipt of this notice shall result in the waiver of your right to appeal and the forfeiture of all your rights to a hearing in the case before the Commission.

You also have the right to prepare a written rebuttal and have it placed with this Notice of Suspension in your personnel file. Any rebuttal must be submitted to the Police Personnel Division within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt of this notice.

DEPUTY CHIEF

Bob Burgreen Chief of Police September , 1990 John C. Smith, Police Officer II, I.D. #4047 Notice of Suspension Page 3

This Notice of Suspension was handed to me in the presence of A. John Morrasul on 9.28-90. I have been given full explanation as to my right of appeal and instructions on how to proceed. Receipt of this memorandum is acknowledged.

			9-28-90	,
	Employee's Signature		Date	_
		<u>L</u>	9-28-90	_
•	Witness Signature		Date .	_

cc: City Manager City Personnel Director Police Personnel Office-file

#### CITY of SAN DIEGO MEMORANDUM

FILE NO:

430

DATE:

September 28, 1990.

T0:

John C. Smith, Police Officer II, I.D. #4047

FROM:

James B. Sing, Commanding Officer, Northern Division

SUBJECT:

Advance Notice of Adverse Action

This is to notify you that I am recommending to the Chief of Police that you be suspended from your position as a Police Officer II for twenty (20) working days. I am proposing that your suspension be made effective at the earliest convenience of the Department, given your right to appeal my recommendation.

This recommendation for your suspension is based on the fact that:

On July 4, 1990, at 2230 hours, you were involved in a police equipment accident while driving equipment number 1207. You were driving on a simulated island and struck the raised median. In addition, you were operating your emergency equipment in an inappropriate manner. After the collision you failed to properly report the accident.

When the accident was discovered and investigated on July 6, 1990, you made untruthful written and verbal statements to your immediate supervisor, and the investigating Traffic officers. Based on this information inaccurate reports were prepared.

On August 15, 1990, the Fleet Safety Sergeant ruled that your accident on July 4, 1990, was "Preventable, Category 3."

Therefore, based on the information available to me, I believe a suspension from duty is appropriate for the following reasons:

You have violated Civil Service Rule XI, Section 3(d), in that you violated the following lawful or official regulations:

- A. Department Policy 1.12, IV, A., Operation of Police Vehicles, in that you failed to notify Communications that you were involved in a police equipment accident.
- B. Department Policy 1.12, E., Operation of Police Vehicles, in that you failed to fill out form RM-1551, Vehicle Accident Report, within 24 hours of the collision.
- C. Department Policy 1.13, III, B 2, and 3, Emergency Vehicle Operation, in that you were operating your emergency lights and siren in an inappropriate manner.

September 28, 1990 John C. Smith, Police Officer II, I.D. #4047 Advance Notice of Adverse Action Page 2

- D. Department Policy 9.3, Obedience to Laws, in that while operating the official police vehicle you were in violation of Vehicle Code Sections 22651(A), driving through a simulated island, and 22350, speed for conditions.
- E. Department Policy 9.28, Department Reports, in that you failed to submit your daily journal in a timely manner, and that your original ARJIS-9 and RM-1551 reports concerning the collision contained false information.
- F. Department Policy 9.29, Truthfulness, in that you gave untruthful written and verbal statements to your immediate supervisor and investigating Traffic officers. These untruthful statements resulted in inaccurate police reports being filed.

Previous disciplinary actions include:



Before any action is taken on this recommendation to suspend you from duty, you have the opportunity to respond and present any information you wish as to why this action should not take place. You have the right to be represented and to respond either orally or in writing to me by  $\frac{\partial A}{\partial A} = \frac{\partial A}{\partial A}$ 

. A failure to respond to me by that time will be deemed a waiver of your opportunity to respond. A copy of all reports and previous discipline upon which this action is based is attached. These are listed below:

- Officers John Smith and Peter Caruso's Daily Activity Journal, dated July 4, 1990.
- Collision Report, dated July 6, 1990, written by Officer D. Jennes, I.D. #3594, and S. Thompson, I.D. #3746, detailing the Police Equipment Collision of July 4, 1990.
- Vehicle Damage Report, form RM-1551, completed by Officer John Smith, on July 6, 1990.
- 4. Supervisor's Vehicle Accident Investigation Report, form RM-1567, completed by Sergeant Richard O'Hanlon, dated July 7, 1990.
- 5. ARJIS-9 Report written by Officer Caruso, dated July 9, 1990.
- 6. ARJIS-9 Report written by Officer John Smith, dated July 9, 1990.
- 7. Vehicle Damage Report, written by dated July 12, 1990.
- Review of Materials Policy, signed by Officer Caruso and Sergeant O'Hanlon, dated July 13, 1990.

September 28, 1990 John C. Smith, Police Officer II, I.D. #4047 Advance Notice of Adverse Action Page 3

- Review of Materials Policy, signed by Officer Smith and Sergeant O'Hanlon, dated July 13, 1990.
- Review of Materials Policy, signed by Officer Smith and Sergeant O'Hanlon, dated July 24, 1990.
- 11. Amended Collision Report completed by Sergeant Richard O'Hanlon, dated July 28, 1990, detailing the collision of July 4, 1990.
- 12. Amended Supervisor's Vehicle Accident Investigation Report, form RM-1567, completed by Sergeant Richard O'Hanlon, dated July 24, 1990.
- 13. Memorandum, dated August 1, 1990, completed by Detective J. A. Stewart, Traffic Investigations Unit.
- 14. Amended Vehicle Damage Report, form RM-1551, completed by Officer Smith on August 2, 1990.

16. City Manager Vehicle Collision Review and Prevention Program Report, #90-207, dated 08-15-90.

The tape recorded interviews of Officers Smith and Caruso as well as the Communications tape of incident B6548 will be maintained by Sergeant Richard O'Hanlon.

James B. Sing, Captain

On 9-28-90 @ 0920, I witnessed the personal delivery of this notice and the above

Witness Signature

Without agreeing to or admitting to any of the statements above, I admit receiving this notice and the above listed documents on 9,28.90.0925 14.5

Employee's Signature

#### CITY of SAN DIEGO MEMORANDUM

FILE NO:

430

DATE:

August 7, 1990

T0:

Gary L. Gollehon, Lieutenant, Northern Division

FROM:

Richard M. O'Hanlon, Sergeant, Beach Enforcement Team

SUBJECT:

Supervisor's Investigative Report Concerning Misconduct of

Officer John C. Smith, I.D. #4047

#### SUMMARY

On July 4, 1990, at approximately 2230 hours, Officer John C. Smith was driving equipment number 1207. Officer Peter J. Caruso, I.D. #4009, was the passenger officer. Smith struck a raised asphalt median at 1100 Sea World Drive. This accident caused moderate damage to the police vehicle. This accident was not properly reported. Unit 1207 was found damaged the next morning by Northern Division garage personnel.

On July 6, 1990, a traffic collision investigation was conducted. During this investigation Officer Smith made untruthful statements concerning the collision. The untruthful statements were made to Smith's immediate supervisor, Sergeant Richard M. O'Hanlon, I.D. #2699, as well as the investigating officers from Traffic Division. The untruthful statements made by Officer Smith were in both verbal and written form. Officer Smith also made untruthful written statements on form RM-1551, Vehicle Damage Report. Based on these untruthful statements an inaccurate collision report was completed. Also an inaccurate Supervisor's Vehicle Accident Report (RM-1567) was completed. Smith originally stated the collision occurred while he was responding "Code Three" to a "Cover Now" call. Subsequent investigation revealed that Smith was not responding to an emergency call when the accident occurred. Smith was operating a police vehicle unsafely when he struck a raised asphalt median.

The Fleet Safety Sergeant ruled the collision a "Preventable, Category Three." (Accident #90-207.)

#### INVESTIGATION

On July 5, 1990, at approximately 0700 hours, Northern Automotive Technician attempted to drive equipment number 1207. found the unit parked adjacent to the car wash along the east fence of the parking

#### INVESTIGATION (Continued)

lot. As started the vehicle he immediately noticed the gear shift indicator was broken. As the drove the vehicle it became apparent the steering column and alignment were also damaged.

Unit 1207 was placed on a rack where the damage could be evaluated further. An examination of the vehicle revealed significant undercarriage damage. The inside rear view mirror had been knocked off. The front bumper was misaligned. Both front rims were bent. There was damage to the front cowling near the hood latch. The inside hood bracing had two dents in it from being struck by the engine.

Equipment number 1207 is assigned to the Northern Division Beach Enforcement Team. At the time the damage was discovered the odometer read 82109.5. miles Lieutenant R. L. James, I.D. #1469, was notified of the damaged vehicle.

Lieutenant James advised me of the damaged vehicle when I arrived at work. I reviewed the Journals from July 1, 1990, through July 4, 1990, in an attempt to locate the last driver of that unit. During my review I was unable to locate the journal for Officers Smith and Caruso for July 4, 1990. I recalled seeing Smith and Caruso driving a black and white unit the evening of July 4, 1990. I did not recall what the equipment number was. I had seen the officers at the command post, at approximately 2200 hours on July 4, 1990, and advised them they were cleared to secure.

Thursday, July 5, 1990 was a day off for Officers Smith and Caruso.

On Friday, July 6, 1990, I told Smith and Caruso that I needed their journal from July 4, 1990. They stated they had inadvertently left the document at the lifeguard station at 700 Ventura Place. I ordered Smith and Caruso to retrieve the journal and return immediately to Northern with the document. This journal would indicate which vehicle Smith and Caruso were driving on the 4th.

Approximately forty-five (45) minutes later I attempted to raise Smith and Caruso on the radio. I walked outside the station and saw Smith and Caruso by the garage area talking to the garage area talking to the station and saw Smith and Caruso by the garage area talking to the station and saw Smith and Caruso by the garage area talking to the station and saw Smith and Caruso by the garage area talking to the station and saw Smith and Caruso by the garage area talking to the station and saw Smith and Caruso by the garage area talking to the station and saw Smith and Caruso by the garage area talking to the station and saw Smith and Caruso by the garage area talking to the station and saw Smith and Caruso by the garage area talking to the station and saw Smith and Caruso by the garage area talking to the station and saw Smith and Caruso by the garage area talking to the station and saw Smith and Caruso by the garage area talking to the station and saw Smith and Caruso by the station area.

I asked Smith and Caruso if they had retrieved their journal. They replied, "No, told us about the damaged car." Smith stated, "I guess I damaged the car more than I thought."

At approximately 1915 hours I asked Smith and Caruso about their knowledge of the damaged vehicle. Sergeant Dave Douglas, I.D. #2237, was also present during this initial interview.

#### INVESTIGATION (Continued)

Officer John Smith stated essentially the following about the damaged vehicle:

We were going to the "Cover Now" at De Anza Cove. I started out from near Fiesta Island. Traffic was really backed up. I was going Code-3, with my lights and siren. I hit the curb. The call went Code-4 after we got on the freeway. I drove to Mission Bay Hospital and checked the car. I didn't notice any damage to the hood or anywhere else. The steering was a little off. The car drove fine the rest of the night. The gear shifter felt a little funny.

Officer Caruso stated essentially the following:

We were going to a cover call at De Anza Cove. John was driving, we hit the curb at Sea World Drive near I-5. We hit pretty hard. We didn't have a problem with the car the rest of the night. John said the gear shifter felt a little funny. We stopped at Mission Bay Hospital and checked the car. I'm not a mechanic. I didn't notice any damage. We didn't look at the undercarriage.

On July 6, 1990, a Traffic supervisor, Sergeant W. Clem, I.D. #1484, and Officers S. Thompson, I.D. #3746, and D. Jennes, I.D. #3594, responded to Northern Division to investigate the police equipment accident. The damage to Unit 1207 was identified and photographed.

The following damage was identified:

- 1. Cracked right turn signal and housing, cracked right front bumper area.
- 2. Broken shift linkage.
- Damaged oil pan.
- 4. Damaged front stabilizer bar.
- 5. Bent front rims.
- 6. Dents to the underside of the hood from the engine striking it.

I ordered Smith and Caruso to locate their daily journal. I further instructed them to meet myself and the Traffic officers at Sea World Drive and Pacific Highway to locate the accident scene.

Smith and Caruso retrieved their journal from July 4, 1990, and located the accident scene at 1100 Sea World Drive. At the accident scene Smith and Caruso gave written statements, ARJIS-9!s, as to how the accident occurred. These reports were incorporated into the accident report written by Officers Jennes and Thompson, dated 07-06-90.

#### INVESTIGATION (Continued)

The ARJIS-9 reports written by Smith and Caruso both indicated they were driving "Code Three" to a cover call at De Anza Cove. According to these reports Smith and Caruso were driving through a simulated island, eastbound on Sea World Drive. As they were driving through the island they struck a raised asphalt center median. Smith and Caruso stated that after striking the median the cover call went "Code Four." Smith drove to Mission Bay Hospital. Smith and Caruso stated they inspected the vehicle and did not see any damage. Smith stated the alignment appeared to be off.

Smith and Caruso stated they drove this unit for the remainder of their shift. Smith and Caruso secured from their shift at approximately 2300 hours on July 4, 1990.

The radio transmissions on Frequency Two and TAC were reviewed. The cover call occurred on July 4th, at 1626 hours. (Incident number 5642.) A parking controller was struck by a vehicle while directing traffic at De Anza Cove. This vehicle was subsequently located and the occupants were taken into custody. The tape recording indicates Smith and Caruso, Unit 1712, never advised the dispatchers on either frequency they were responding to the cover call.

A review of Smith and Caruso's journal for July 4th, shows they volunteered for the cover call. The time of the cover call noted on the journal is 1600 hours.

The Traffic units completed their investigation and forwarded the accident report to the Fleet Safety Sergeant. Officer Smith completed a Vehicle Damage Report, form RM-1551. Smith indicated on this document he was enroute to a cover call at 1600 hours when the accident occurred. Smith wrote he was driving Code-3 in the center island, getting around stopped traffic when he struck the raised island. Smith further wrote he stopped at Mission Bay Hospital and inspected the police unit for damage. Smith indicated he did not see any damage. Smith wrote he first became aware of the damage when a garage mechanic told him about it.

Smith completed his reports on July 6, 1990.

On July 6, 1990, I completed a Supervisor's Vehicle Accident Investigation Report, form RM-1567. My investigation was based on Smith and Caruso's verbal and written statements to the Traffic officers. My investigation indicated Smith was driving Code-3 to a "Cover Now" call at De Anza Cove. While driving through a simulated island Smith struck a raised asphalt median at 1100 Sea World Drive. My investigation also indicated this collision was not properly reported. The Supervisor's Vehicle Accident Investigation Report and Vehicle Damage Report were forwarded to the Fleet Safety Sergeant.

#### INVESTIGATION (Continued)

On Saturday, July 7, I was at 700 Grand Avenue with continuous, Chairperson of the Citizen's Review Board on Police Practices. was riding with me as an observer. We were approached by a citizen who inquired as to the welfare of the officers involved in the accident. I asked this citizen, some general questions about the accident.

police car hit a raised island at about fifty (50) mph. I obtained information and told him I would contact him in the next few days.

On July 8, 1990, at approximately 1250 hours, I interviewed Automotive Technician stated essentially the following:

I got to work about 7:00 o'clock in the morning. I got into Unit 1207 to roadtest it. That is normally the first thing I do when I get to work. As soon as I got in the car I knew something was wrong with the car. The rear view mirror was knocked off. The right turn indicator was broken. The bumper was bent. The gear shift lever was loose and was touching the dash. The car was parked along the fence by the car wash. Also the fiberglass cowling was broken. When I drove the car you could tell something was wrong. I told my boss about the damage. Whoever damaged the car had to know they did it.

On July 9, 1990, Officer Smith and Caruso hand-delivered ARJIS-9 reports to Sergeant Douglas. These reports stated the original ARJIS-9's submitted to the Traffic unit about the accident on July 6, 1990, were in error. The reports dated July 9, 1990, submitted by Smith and Caruso stated the accident occurred at 2230 hours. These reports stated Caruso and Smith did not check the vehicle for damage until they arrived at the Northern Substation.

On July 9, 1990, at approximately 1410 hours, I interviewed the telephone. pertinent information is as follows:

stated essentially the following:

I was with were on Sea World Drive going towards I-5. We were in the fast lane, closest to the middle. We were about two car lengths back from the intersection. I had the windows down, I saw flashing lights, but I didn't hear a siren. I heard skid marks. The police car went airborne after hitting the island. Two hubcaps came off. I thought they hit a sign but I can't be sure. The police car went north on I-5 for two exits and then turned off. He was going over fifty miles per hour when he hit the median.

#### INVESTIGATION (Continued)

The accident happened around 10:30 p.m. I'm sure of the time because it was after the fireworks. Traffic was bumper to bumper.

(At this time I have been unable to interview passenger.)

On July 11, 1990, I met with Detective James Stewart, I.D. #3378, of the Traffic Investigations Unit. Detective Stewart and I reexamined the collision scene and Unit 1207. The collision scene was photographed by Detective Stewart. Based on the examination of the collision scene and the damage to Unit 1207, Detective Stewart formed the following opinion:

The driver of Unit 1207 would have to reasonably conclude that he/she was involved in an accident and should have been aware of the damage. There is not any damage on Unit 1207 consistent with the vehicle striking a sign.

Detective Stewart's report is attached.

The cost of repairing Unit 1207 is estimated at \$945.38. This information is contained in a damage report submitted by July 12, 1990. This report is attached.

On July 13, 1990, at approximately 1905 hours, I interviewed Officer Peter Caruso. Prior to the interview Caruso reviewed all of the written materials that had been compiled during my investigation. Caruso signed the "Internal Affairs Review of Materials Policy" in my presence. Officer Caruso was also given the Garrity Warning prior to the interview. Officer Caruso requested representation and the interview was concluded.

On July 13, 1990, at approximately 1940 hours, I interviewed Officer John Smith. Prior to the interview Smith reviewed all of the written materials compiled during my investigation. Smith signed the "Internal Affairs Review of Materials Policy" in my presence. Officer Smith was also given the Garrity Warning prior to the interview. Officer Smith requested representation and the interview was concluded.

On July 20, 1990, at approximately 1510 hours, I interviewed garage mechanic Arturo stated essentially the following:

I was in the garage. Car 1207 was up on the rack. \_\_\_\_\_ came over and I asked them who messed up the car. I told them to check it out. This was Friday evening (July 6, 1990).

#### INVESTIGATION (Continued)

On July 24, 1990, at approximately 0800 hours, I interviewed Officer Peter Caruso. Also present was Caruso's attorney James Gattey. The interview was tape recorded. Prior to the interview Caruso and Gattey reviewed all of the documents I had compiled in this matter. I read Caruso the Garrity Warning prior to the interview. The interview was tape recorded.

Caruso stated essentially the following:

John was driving on July 4th. Traffic was backed up well past Sea World Drive, past the center divider both ways. John had the lights on and was tapping the siren. We were going 10-19, back up to the sub to secure at the end of shift. The accident happened about 11 o'clock in the evening. It didn't happen like we stated originally. It happened like we stated in our supplemental reports.

We were going about thirty miles per hour or so when we hit. The time on the accident report is wrong. When we first learned of the accident, John was real worried that he was going to get terminated because we were going 10-19 and not to a cover call. John thinks that you are not very fond of him. Plus statements that you made that any discipline we would get would be three times worse than anybody else. So instead of saying we were going 10-19 we said we were going to a cover call. He said he was going to report it like that. I wasn't too keen on that. I did it to cover him. I knew I could change his mind probably over the weekend, and have us resubmit an addendum to the report, which we did. I had to work with him that night. He was my cover. If he submitted a report that says one thing and I submit a report that says he's lying, I would be putting myself at a risk. I weighed both of them and I wrote my report concurrent with his report.

The accident happened when it was dark. Traffic was backed up from the beach because of the fireworks. There wasn't a cover call, John was driving to get around traffic. We hit a raised center island near Sea World and I-5. John did the journal that night.

We parked the car in the back near the car wash. We always park back there because my own vehicle is parked back there, it is easy to unload. We didn't notice any hubcaps missing from the car. We did not put any hubcaps on the car.

The accident was at about 10:30, right after we left the command post. We first became aware of the damage Friday after lineup, when we spoke to Art. John said that the steering felt a little funny. He let go of the steering wheel and the car went straight. I told him to hit the brakes, he did and the car didn't do anything unusual. I've been in accidents similar to that where the front end was totally messed up, but this was fine.

#### **INVESTIGATION** (Continued)

We never went to Mission Bay Hospital and checked the car. I don't recall the rearview mirror being knocked off. John left the journal down at the lifeguard tower.

The accident was between 2230 to 2300, not earlier. We looked at the car when we got to Northern. I looked under the front and didn't see anything. John looked a little more than I did and he didn't see anything. The reason for the error in the time of the accident was because John thought he would be in trouble if he reported that we were going 10-19. He wanted to say we were going to the cover call. I went along with it. I knew I could get him to change his story, which we did, to what it was. At the time he wanted to report it like that.

I could have reported it the way it happened. But I would put him in a position where he was lying or I was lying. I had to work with him the next night.

(At this point the tape ran out. The unrecorded conversations were summarized on side two of the tape. The gap was approximately forty-five seconds.)

I first became aware of the damage on Friday. The mechanic told John about it and John called me over. We went down to the P.O.A. and told them about it. We wrote an addendum to clarify the matter.

The interview was concluded at 0825 hours.

On July 24, 1990, at approximately 1405 hours, I interviewed Officer John Smith. Steve McMillan, Smith's representative, was also present. Prior to the interview Smith and McMillan reviewed all of the documents that I had compiled during the course of my investigation. Smith and McMillan also listened to the interview of Officer Caruso. Smith signed the "Internal Affairs Review of Materials Policy" in my presence. Smith was given the Garrity Warning prior to the interview. The interview was tape recorded. Smith stated essentially the following:

Pete and I were in a black and white, equipment 1207, on July 4th. I was driving. The incident happened about 10:30, 11:00 o'clock p.m. We had just left the command post at Sunset Point. Traffic was heavy. I was going eastbound on Sea World Drive.

I was driving on the center island and hit a raised island. I was driving on the island to get around traffic. I was going about 30 mph. I had my lights and siren on. I had the amber on and the red light on to the front. Periodically I would hit the siren. I don't think they were on the full rotation mode.

#### INVESTIGATION (Continued)

I hit the island and came off of it. I went on I-5. I didn't take any off ramps before La Jolla Village Drive. I parked the car in the back row. I normally park there. I examined the car about 11:15. I walked around the front and looked underneath the front end. I didn't look at the tires. I didn't notice any hubcaps missing. I didn't notice the rearview mirror missing.

It felt like the wheel was a little funny. I let go of the wheel and the car went straight. I hit the brakes and the car didn't pull to either side.

I did the journal that night. I left the journal in the lifeguard tower. I found it on the desk on the second floor. I did not put any hubcaps on the car.

I first found out about the damage on Friday when I came back to work. The mechanic asked if I was driving the car. He said I messed it up. He said there was damage to the undercarriage. When I looked at it on the Fourth I didn't notice anything.

Initially I said the accident occurred during a cover call, about 8 o'clock, 8:30. I said that because I feared retaliation, from the command, because we were using the lights when we weren't supposed to.

The accident actually occurred around 10:30 p.m., like we wrote in our addendum reports. We wrote the addendums on Monday.

When I told you that I looked at the car at Mission Bay Hospital that was incorrect. After the accident I drove right to the station. The accident occurred at 10:30, initially I said the accident occurred earlier. The initial traffic report is wrong.

The interview was concluded at 1420 hours.

On July 29, 1990, I wrote an amended collision report. This report indicates the correct time of the collision, 2230 hours. The report also reflects that Officer Smith was not driving "Code 3" in response to a "Cover Now" call. The report indicates that Smith was driving through a simulated island trying to get around traffic when he struck the raised island. Smith was not responding to a radio call but instead was driving to Northern Division when the impact occurred.

On July 29, 1990, I prepared a revised Supervisor's Vehicle Accident Investigation Report, form RM-1567.

On August 2, 1990, I received a revised Vehicle Damage Report, form RM-1551, from Officer Smith.

#### INVESTIGATION (Continued)

The "Amended" collision report, revised supervisor's investigation and revised vehicle damage report have been forwarded to the Fleet Safety Sergeant.

On August 16, 1990, Keith R. Grote, I.D. #1380, Fleet Safety Sergeant, ruled that Smith's accident was a "Preventable, Category 3" collision.

On August 16, 1990, Officer Smith was advised of the finding concerning his collision by the Fleet Safety Sergeant.

#### CONCLUSION

Officer Smith was driving a marked unit through a simulated island at 1100 Sea World Drive. Smith struck a raised island while driving through the median. Smith was not responding to an emergency radio call when the collision occurred. Smith was operating his emergency equipment in an improper manner. After the collision Smith did not properly report the accident. This action by Smith left a damaged unit available for other police personnel to use. The damage was of the extent that the vehicle was a considerable safety hazard for anyone else to operate.

When Smith was confronted with the damaged unit he gave false statements as to the time and nature of the collision. Smith completed a Vehicle Damage Report in an untruthful manner. Based on Smith's statements an inaccurate collision report and Supervisor's Vehicle Accident Investigation Report were completed.

An amended collision report, Vehicle Damage Report, and Supervisor's Accident Investigative Report have been submitted.

Officer John C. Smith has violated Civil Service Rule XI, Section 3(d) in that he violated the following lawful or official regulations:

- A. Department Policy 1.12, IV, A., Operation of Police Vehicles, in that you failed to notify Communications that you were involved in a police equipment accident.
- B. Department Policy 1.12, E., Operation of Police Vehicles, in that you failed to fill out form RM-1551, Vehicle Accident Report, within 24 hours of the collision.
- C. Department Policy 1.13, III, B 2, and 3, Emergency Vehicle Operation, in that you were operating your emergency lights and siren in an inappropriate manner.

#### **CONCLUSION** (Continued)

- D. Department Policy 9.3, Obedience to Laws, in that while operating the official police vehicle you were in violation of Vehicle Code Sections 22651(A), driving through a simulated island, and 22350, speed for conditions.
- E. Department Policy 9.28, Department Reports, in that you failed to submit your daily journal in a timely manner, and that your original ARJIS-9 and RM-1551 reports contained false information.
- F. Department Policy 9.29, Truthfulness, in that you gave untruthful written and verbal statements to your immediate supervisor and investigating Traffic officers. These untruthful statements resulted in inaccurate police reports being filed.

Attached are the following documents and materials:

- Officers John Smith and Peter Caruso's Daily Activity Journal, dated July 4, 1990.
- 2. Collision Report, dated July 6, 1990, written by Officer D. Jennes, I.D. #3594, and S. Thompson, I.D. #3746, detailing the Police Equipment Collision of July 4, 1990.
- 3. Vehicle Damage Report, form RM-1551, completed by Officer John Smith, on July 6, 1990.
- 4. Supervisor's Vehicle Accident Investigation Report, form RM-1567, completed by Sergeant Richard O'Hanlon, dated July 7, 1990.
- 5. ARJIS-9 Report written by Officer Caruso, dated July 9, 1990.
- 6. ARJIS-9 Report written by Officer John Smith, dated July 9, 1990.
- 7. Vehicle Damage Report, written by dated July 12, 1990.
- 8. Review of Materials Policy, signed by Officer Caruso and Sergeant O'Hanlon, dated July 13, 1990.
- 9. Review of Materials Policy, signed by Officer Smith and Sergeant O'Hanlon, dated July 13, 1990.
- 10. Review of Materials Policy, signed by Officer Smith and Sergeant O'Hanlon, dated July 24, 1990.

#### CONCLUSION (Continued)

- 11. Amended Collision Report completed by Sergeant Richard O'Hanlon, dated July 28, 1990, detailing the collision of July 4, 1990.
- 12. Amended Supervisor's Vehicle Accident Investigation Report, form RM-1567, completed by Sergeant Richard O'Hanlon, dated July 24, 1990.
- 13. Memorandum, dated August 1, 1990, completed by Detective J. A. Stewart, Traffic Investigations Unit.
- 14. Amended Vehicle Damage Report, form RM-1551, completed by Officer Smith on August 2, 1990.

16. City Manager Vehicle Collision Review and Prevention Program Report, #90-207, dated 08-15-90.

The tape recorded interviews of Officers Smith and Caruso as well as the Communications tape of incident B6548 will be maintained by Sergeant Richard O'Hanlon.

Appropriate disciplinary action is recommended.

Richard M. O'Hanion, Sergeant Northern Division

Northern Division

RMO:mlr Attachments

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### **COLLISION SUMMARY**

100 SEAWORLD RR. BET. PACIFIC HWY AND I-5 DATE / 1/4/90 1801
OFFICER'S CONCLUSIONS: (SUMMARIZE THE COLL. INV. WITH A WORD PICTURE. INCLUDE ALL EVIDENCE NECESSARY TO SUPPORT CHARGE.)
V-1 IS A MARKED BLACK AND WHITE
POLICE CAR WITH EMERGENCY OVER HEAD LIGHTS
AND SIREN. V-1 WAS DRIVEN BY OFFICER
SMITH 4047 AND OFFICER CARUSON 4009 WAS THE
FRONT SEAT PASSENGER.
ON 7/4/90 P-1 WAS IN ROUTE TO A
COVER CALL ELB ON 1100 SEAWORLD DR. DUE TO
TRAFFIC CONGESTION PIDROVE ON THE SIMULATED
ISLAND. P-1 SAW THE RAISED ASPHALT CENTER
INFIDIAN AND ATTEMPTED TO STOP LEAVING 30 FT.
OF LOCKED WHEEL SKID. P-1'S SPEEDWAS TOO GREAT
TO STOP PRIOR TO HITTING THE RAISED MEDIAN
WITH THE UNDER CARRIAGE OF THE CAR. P-1 CONTINUES
TO THE COVER CALL ON THE RAISED CENTER MEDIAN.
P-1 CAME OFF THE MEDIAN AS HE PROCEEDED THROUGH
THE INTERSECTION OF SEAWORLD DR. AND I-5'SSIB
ON RAMP. THE COVER CALL WENT C-4 PRIOR TO
P-1'S ARRIVAL.
EQUIPMENT 1207 WAS DRIVEN THE REST
OF THE SHIFT AND PARKED AT THE NORTHERN
PARKING LOT AT THE END OF THE SHIFT.
ON 7/6/90 A RANDOM ROAD TEST WAS DONE
ON EQUIPMENT # 1207 BY
GARAGE MECHANICO REPORTING OFFICER  LU. NUMBER DATE AND TIME  DATE AND TIME  TO THAT THE
DISTINCT SORVING FORM SPACE IS NEEDED FOR SUMMARY IN ARRATIVED
PD-156 (Rev. 9-87) (USE ANOTHER FORM 156 IF ADDITIONAL SPACE IS NEEDED FOR SUMMARY/NARRATIVE)

### **COLLISION SUMMARY**

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COLLISION LOCATION 100 SEAWORLD ORG BET PACIFIC HWY AND I-5			7/4/91	TIME 1801
PERSON CITED	DATE OF BIRTH	CHARGE	APPE	EARANCE DATE
PERSON CITED	DATE OF BIRTH	CHARGE	APPE	EARANCE DATE
OFFICER'S CONCLUSIONS: (SUMMARIZE THE COLL. INV. WITH A WOR	I RD PICTURE. INCLUDE <b>AI</b>	LL EVIDENCE NECESSARY TO	SUPPORT CHARG	E.)
CAR WAS HARD TO SHIFT AND	STEER	· HE DR	OUR TI	HE
CAR ONTO A HOIST TO LOOP	K ATT	HE UNDE	R CARR	INGE,
AND DISCOVERED THE DAM				·
OFFICER S. 7	HOMPS	ON#376	+6 AN.	DI
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EVALUATE THE DAMAGE. S	67. R.	O'HANLO	N #26	99
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WAS BROKEN . THE OIL PAI	V WAS	JAMED:	INTO	THE
CENTER LINK, 2" UP AND I	I" BACK	L. THER	E AR	E
SCRATCHES ON BOTH SID				
BAR AND BOTH FRONT R	IM ARI	E BENT	: TWO	DENT
LOCATED INSIDE THE HOOD	OFTH	TE CAR (	NERE	CAUSEL
BYTHE ENGINE HITTING ?	THE H	OOD.		
WE OBTAINED	WRIT	TEN STA	TEME	NTS
FROM OFFICERS SMITH 460	47 AND	CARUSO	# 400	99.
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REPORTING OFFICER SOFT	- 1-2 7	1690 210	<i>ا</i> ن	
PD-156 (REV. 1-87) (USE ANOTHER FORM 156 IF ADDITIONAL SPA	ACE IS NEEDED FOR SUM	MARY/NARRATIVE)		

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0~	AND	WERL	E TRA	VELIN	٠٤	A-365T	30 /	npt.	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •		
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**Collision Diagram** DATE 7/6/90 TIME 180/ COLLISION LOCATION 1100 SEA WORLD DR DIAGRAM NOT TO SCALE 1E1> \FI7 PIT PI 1100 SEA WORLD I-5 5/B ONRAMP GOULE FROM PI'S UNDERCARIZIAGE STOPPED VEHICLES 273 LockED WHERE SKID 30" Locked WHEEL SKID

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FOR THE EXCLUSIVE USE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE AND/OR CITY ATTORNEY OF
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POLICE	EQUIPMENT	ACCIDENT
	DATA SHE	FT

DATE: 7-4-90 TIM	E: 1900 LOC	ATION: SEA WORLD AT I.5	
WEATHER: CLEAR	DAY	OF WEEK: WED	
NAME AND I.D.:	MITH JOHN	)	
DATE OF HIRE:	7-24-86	YEARS: 3	
DATE OF BIRTH:	gream .	AGE:	
WATCH/DIVISION:	N-9	BEAT:	
UNIT NUMBER:	1712		
C.D.L.:	-	·	
DAYS WORKED THIS WEEK:	15T DAY ON	ZETIME ON DAY OFF	
HOURS WORKED TODAY:		-	
SEAT BELT:	HARNESS: X	LAP BELT:	
#1 PASSENGER:	NAME:	#OFFICER CIVILIAN:	-
	CARUSO.	PETER 4009	
SEAT BELT:	HARNESS: X	LAP BELT:	
#2 PASSENGER:	NAME:	#OFFICER CIVILIAN	
SEAT BELT:	HARNESS:	LAP BELT:	
ESTIMATE OF SPEED:	30 MPH	•	
NATURE OF CALL	COVER C	ALL	
EQUIPMENT NUMBER/MILES:	1207 MIL	ES: <u>82110</u>	
MERGENCY LIGHTS:	YES:	NO:	
YELLOW ONLY: RED/YELLOW ONLY: NLL-RED/BLUE/YELLOW: SIREN: HEADLIGHTS: BRIGHTS: BPOTLIGHT:	× × × × × × × × × × × × × × × × × × ×		*

# CALL TO REPORT ACCIDENT

CITY VEHICLE

OTHER VEHICLE, PROPERTY OR PARTY

WITNESS

ACCIDENT DESCRIPTION

RM-1551 (\$-83)

### CITY OF SAN DIEGO RISK MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

ORIGINAL									SAFET
GREEN									CLAIM
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	ALL DAMAGE MUST BE
	INVESTIGATED BY
ĵ.	IMMEDIATE SUPERVISOR

ALL DAMAGE MUST BE INVESTIGATED BY IMMEDIATE SUPERVISOR	VE	HICLE	DAMAGE REI	PORT			c	ITY	FILE N	10	,	
DEPARTMENT AND DIVISION	TELEPHONE DATE OF ACC			ACCI	IDENT TIME OF ACCIDENT				۱T			
POLICE HORTHERN	Augus		7.4.	90			TEL	LO				
SIMITH JOHN			4275 EAST	BATE	100.01.1					11011	_	
DETVERS LICENSE NO. LICENSE	TYPE		LICENSE EXPIRATION	ON	JOB CLA		ATION		DAT	E OF B	RTH	
SOCIAL SECURITY NO. DESCRIBE					P							
	NF.	A LO CI.	TY OPERATOR, IF A	NY, ANI	FILE FO	RM E	5-1531A	4 - EN	MPLOY	EE INJU	RYRE	PORT
CITY VEHICLE NO. VEHICLE MAKE	NE		YEAR	вору	TYPE			· · · · · ·				
1207 FORD			පිරි	(	4 DR							
CHECK HOW DAMAGE OCCURRED:		DES	CRIBE DAMAGE (BE		1. 2.						· · · · · · · ·	
VANDALISM UNKNOWN  VEHICLE ACCIDENT INDUSTRIA		D	AMAGE TO	CUDE	ER BOS	ΣŲ						
VEHICLE ACCIDENT   INDUSTRIA	AL ACCIDEN	т				•						
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	HATS E	ASTGA	TE MALL									
1 ASSERTED	JURE 55			TEL	EPHONE		'	ИЗОВ	RY (FIL	E FORM	1 ES-1	531A)
NAME OF DRIVER	AGE	ADDRE	ss			TELE	EPHONE	E		, CRIVE	S LICI	ENSE NO.
REGISTERED OWNER		ADDRES	2.0							<u> </u>		
1.		ADORES				TELE	EPHONE	E		VEHICL	E LICE	ENSE NO.
NAME OF INSURANCE CARRIER		VEHICL	E MAKE	-		BODY	TYPE			YEAR		
RIVERINJURY						Ĺ						
2.		VEHICL	E DAMAGE - DESCR	IBE								
INJURED PASSENGER OR PEDESTRIAN AG	E ADDRESS			TEL	EPHONE		INJUR	Y			;	5145
3.											- 1	PED.
INJURED PASSENGER OR PEDESTRIAN AG	E ADDRESS			TELE	EPHONE		INJURY	,				PASS.
INJURED PASSENGER OR PEDESTRIAN AG	E ADDRESS	************		TEL	EPHONE		NJURY					ED.
5.											- 1	PASS.
NON-VEHICULAR DAMAGE DESCRIBE L	LOCATION											
OWNER		ADDRES	S				т,	EL.E	PHONE			
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NAME	ADDRESS			TEL	EPHONE		PASS.		ACCID	TION AT	TIME	OF
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# SUPERVISORS VEHICLE ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION REPORT

ORIGINAL- SAFETY DIVISION YELLOW - CLAIMS GREEN - ORIGINATING DEPT.

1	1. EMPLOYEE NAME (PRINT LAST, FIRST, M.I.) 2. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER 3. DEPT./DIVISION 4. DATE OF ACCIDEN
	SMITH, JOHN C. Police-Northern 070   904   90
	5. JOB CLASSIFICATION  6. EMPLOYEE STATUS: SEASONAL C 7. EMPLOYEE WORKING OVERTIME WHEN ACCIDENT
١,	I was accessory in the contract time with the company
ORMATION	1 POIICE UTTICET II PERMEIULTIMEXXB LIMITED TO 1 10 TO 1
F	OF TIME IN CLASSIFICATION S. EMPLOTED WITH CITY: 10. EXPERIENCE WITH VEHICLE: 11. CITY VEHICLE: 12. 15 VES CIVE
₹	YESX A LO EQUIB. NUMBER
1 6	1 TO 3 MONTHS B 1 TO 5 YEARS XX B LESS THAN 3 MOS. B 13 VEHICLE SIZE & TYPE 12 16 CON EVE
Ō	4 MOS. TO 1 YEAR C 6 TO 10 YEARS C 4 MOS. TO 1 YEAR C
1 5	1 TO 5 YEARS XXD   OVER 10 YEARS DD   4 door sedan
2	OVER 5 YEARS DE 14.VEHICLE MAKE & YEAR (EX. FORD/196
Щ	1988 Ford
EHICL	15. ACTION OF CITY VEHICLE: (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY) 16. ACCIDENT SITE:
I	PARKED A LEFT TURN OF CHANGING LANES OF VARD OF DOLLY
5	STOPPED IN TRACEIC BE HIGHT TORN DG OTHER (BE SPECIFIC) DZ STREET XXB LANDFILL
۵ ا	ALLEY LIC PRIVATE PROP LIC
3	PARK LID FREEWAY LIF
A	BEACH DE OTHER DE
MPLOYEE	
1 %	17. DAMAGE TO: (CHECK ALL THAT 18. INJURIES: 19. TYPE OF RESPONSE: 20. ACCIDENT PROPERLY REPORTED
ਮੁੱ	APPLY)  CITY VEHICLE   A NONE   A 21.AT TIME OF ACCIDENT HAD TRAINING BEEN GIVEN:
1 5	CITIZEN LIB   WITHIN 30 DAYS LI 6 MOS. TO 1 YEAR ATA OVER 5 YEARS [7]
l m	OTHER VEHICLE C EMPLOYEE C 1 TO 6 MONTHS 1 TO 5 YEARS NONE GIVEN
	CITY PROPERTY D BOTH D 22. LOCATION OF ACCIDENT: 23. TIME OF DAY
	$1100$ Sea World Drive $4:00$ $\mathbb{R}^{A.M.}$
	DESCRIBE HOW ACCIDENT OCCURRED, INCLUDE ANY VIOLATIONS OF CITY OF DEET POLICY ACTION OF CITY OF CITY OF DEET POLICY ACTION OF CITY OF CITY OF DEET POLICY ACTION OF CITY OF THE CITY
	CONDITIONS, EQUIPMENT MALFUNCTION, ETC. (BE SPECIFIC):
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	PRIMARY CAUSE OF ACCIDENT (WHY DID THE ACCIDENT OCCUR):
	SPEED FOR CONDITIONS
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CAUSE	
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-	WHAT HAS BEEN/WILL BE DONE TO PREVENT RECURRENCE (PLACE AN "X" BY ITEMS COMPLETED):
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ĪĔ	THIS COLLISION WILL BE REVIEWED AT THE COMMAND LEVEL FOR DISPOSITION.
REVENTION	
5	
H. H.	
Δ,	
17	PHONE # APPOINTING AUTHORITY: DATE:
ا	ichard M. O'HANLON, Sergeant
	67 (REV. 7-84)

### SAN DIEGO POLICE DEPARTMENT INVESTIGATOR'S REPORT

DATE (occurr.): July 4, 1990

TIME (occurr.): 1600 hours

LOCATION:

1100 Sea World Drive

SUBJECT:

Supervisor's Investigation of Police Equipment Collision

Officer John C. SMITH #4047 was driving police equipment number 1207 on July 4, 1990. Officer Peter J. CARUSO #4009 was the passenger officer.

Officers SMITH and CARUSO were responding to a "Cover Now" call at De Anza Cove at approximately 1600 hours. Traffic was extremely congested on Sea World Drive due to the July 4th holiday. SMITH was driving northbound on Sea World Drive in the center island (painted) trying to avoid traffic. Prior to entering the island SMITH activiated the vehicle's emergency lights and siren.

SMITH proceeded northbound on Sea World Drive and was approaching the I-5 overpass. As SMITH approached the south edge of the bridge there is a raised ashalt island. SMITH was driving over thirty(30) m.p.h. at this point.

SMITH attempted to avoid the island by braking. SMITH struck the south edge of the island with the front end of equipment 1207. The unit became airborne and landed on the island. Gouge marks were found at the point of impact and where the undercarriage contacted the island. SMITH continued driving northbound on the island. The "Cover Now" call went "Code Four" prior to SMITH and CARUSO arriving.

SMITH drove the vehicle to Mission Bay Hospital where both he and CARUSO "inspected" the vehicle for damage. SMITH and CARUSO later stated that they did not find any damage. They also stated that the vehicle was difficult to shift and appeared to be out of alignment immediately after striking the island.

SMITH drove the vehicle until the end of his shift. (2400 hours) He parked the vehicle at the Northern Division station. Northern Division garage personnel located the damaged unit at approximately 0700 on Thursday. (07-05-90) Lieutenant R. JAMES #1469 was notified of the damaged vehicle shortly after its discovery.

Equipment number 1207 is assigned the the Northern Division Beach Enforcement Team.

On Thursday morning, 07-05-90, Lieutenant JAMES contacted me and advised me of the damaged vehicle. I recall seeing SMITH and CARUSO drving a black and white sedan on July 4th. I do not recall the equipment number.

A.					
Reporting Officer Sgt.	Richard M.	O' HANLON	I.D. #2699	Division	N-B.E.T.
Approved By		Date of this report	07-07-90	Time	1930
PD-153A (11-77)					

## SAN DIEGO POLICE DEPARTMENT INVESTIGATOR'S REPORT

DATE (occurr.):		•			
TIME (occurr.):					
LOCATION:		•			
SUBJECT:	Police	Fouinment	Collision	na	2

On 07-06-90 I was in the process of trying to locate SMITH and CARUSO's daily activity journal for 07-04-90. I saw SMITH and CARUSO at the garage area of Northern. Unit number 1207 was uppon the rack at this time.

Officer SMITH stated at this point, "I guess I really damaged the car." This was at approximately 1820 hours. (SMITH and CARUSO were both off on Thursday, 07-06-90) A Traffic unit and Traffic supervisor responded to Northern Division. The accident scene was located and a collision report was made.

The damage to equipment number 1207 includes but is not limited to the following: bent front rims, a broken gear shift indicator, fractured right turn signal, front bumper damage, hood damage and substantial engine and undercarriage damage.

Based on the damage to Unit number 1207 and the damage located at the collision scene the following conclusion is reached.

Officer John C. SMITH was involved in a police equipment collision on 07-04-90 at approximately 1600 hours. The damage to Unit number 1207 was of such magnitude that SMITH and his partner Peter J, CARUSO should have known that they were involved in a police equipment collision.

Officer John C. SMITH, the driver, failed to properly report the collision to a police supervisor according to established department policy.

Reporting Officer Sgt. Richard M. O'HANLON I.D. # 2699 Division N-B.E.T.

Approved By \_\_\_\_\_ Date of this report 07-07-90 Time 1930

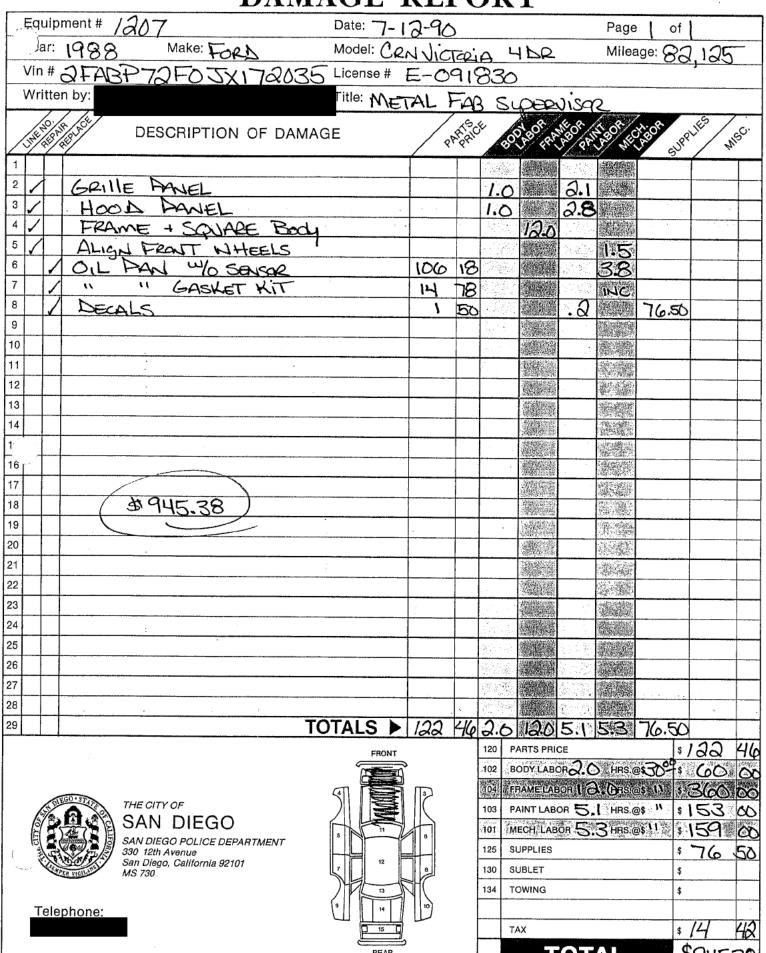
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ARJIS-9 (REV. 9-84)

### DAMAGE REPORT



#### INTERNAL AFFAIRS

#### REVIEW OF MATTERIALS POLICY

During the Administrative portion of an Internal Affairs investigation, subject officers are entitled to raview all non-confidential information obtained by Internal Affairs investigators prior to being interviewed.

All information, includes non-confidential citizen complaint forms, investigator notes, tape recorded interviews, witness statements and photographs. This right does not apply if an officer is the subject of a criminal investigation.

The right to review Internal Affairs material does not include the right to copy, photograph, tape record or make notes for the purpose of removing said material from the Internal Affairs Unit.

Subject officers will, if subject to discipline, be given a copy of all Internal Affairs materials (except tape recorded interviews) by their Commanding Officer prior to or during the imposition of discipline. Subject officers may request a copy of a tape recorded interview through their Commanding Officer.

I have read and understand the above.

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#### INTERNAL AFFACES

### REVIEW OF MATTERIALS POLICY

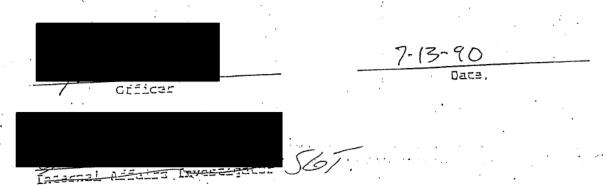
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7/24/90

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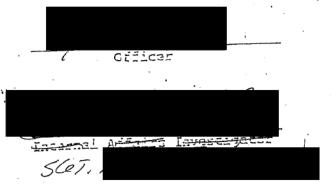
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I have read and understand the above.



2/39

## SAN DIEGO POLICE DEPARTMENT INVESTIGATOR'S REPORT

DATE (occurr.): July 4, 1990

TIME (occurr.):

2230 hours

LOCATION:

1100 Sea World Drive

SUBJECT:

AMENDED REPORT-Police Equipment Accident-Officer John C. SMITH ID 4047

"FOR THE EXCLUSIVE USE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE AND/OR THE CITY ATTORNEY"

The original traffic report submitted by Officers JENNES #3594 and THOMPSON #3746 concerning the police equipment accident with Officer John C. SMTIH #4047 must be amended for the following reasons:

- 1. The original report 115ts the time of the accident as 1801 hours. Further investigation revealed that the accident occurred at 2230 hours.
- 2. The initial report indicates that SMITH was driving in a "CODE THREE" response to a "COVER NOW" call at De Anza Cove. In fact, SMITH was driving through the center island with his red and yellow lights only when the collision occurred. SMITH was enroute to the Northern Division station when he struck the island. SMITH was NOT responding to any radio call. SMITH was driving through the island to avoid traffic that had backed up on Sea World Drive due to the Fourth of July fireworks.

The investigation into the collision is continuing. Also the fact that the accident was not properly reported is being investigated.

Appropriate disciplinary action will be recommended for Officers SMITH and CARUSO for their involvement in this incident.

A revised collision report, dated 7-28-90 is attached.

"FOR THE EXCLUSIVE USE OF THE C	HIEF OF POLICE AND/OR THE CIT	Y ATTORNEY"
Reporting Officer Richard M. Q'HANLON	Sergeant I.D. # 2699	DivisionN-B.E.T.
Approved By	Date of this report 7-28-90	Time 1800

AMENDES REPORT

	DIEGO POLICE DEPARTMENT TRAFFIC COLLISION	REPORT			Page _ I	_of_/O_
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## **COLLISION INTERVIEWS**

(Driver/Passenger/Witness)

Pg 3 of 10

collision Location 1100 Sea World Drive		07-04-90	2230
DRIVER NAME OCCUP. John C. SMITH #4047	ADDRESS 1401 Broadway San Dieg	0	PHONE HOME
One This interview was conducted on 7-24-90 a	t approximately 1330 hours	•	PHONE WORK
SMITH stated essentially the following:			
I was driving. The accident happened about	10:30 PM. We were heading	into the	station
after we had left the command post. The tra	affic on Sea World Drive wa	s real heav	vy. I was
driving through the center island to get are	ound traffic. I was not re	sponding to	o a call.
I had my yellow amber on and the red light	to the front on. I was tap	ping the si	iren.
I hit the island just before I-5. I drove	straight to the station. I	looked at	the
car at the station. I didn't notice any dar	nage. This was about 11:15	PM.	
I was going about 30 mph when I hit the isla	and.		
□ DRIVER NAME □ OCCUP. Peter J. CARUSO #4009 □ WIT.	1401 Broadway San Diego		PHONE HOME
One This interview was conducted on 7-24-90 a	at approximately 0730 hours		PHONE WORK
John was driving. We were heading into the	station. Traffic was real	heavy beca	ause of
the fireworks. We were going about 30 mph.	We hit the raised center	island arou	and I-5.
We parked the car near the car wash. I look	ked at the front of car and	didn't see	e any damage.
We were not going to a cover call.		,	
			H. & R. NO
			NO.
Richard M. J'HANLON, Sergeant 2699	N-9 07-28-90 18	00	Action and the second
PD-156A (Rev. 1-87) (USE ANOTHER FORM 156A IF ADDITI	ONAL SPACE NEEDED FOR INTERVIEWS		

## **COLLISION INTERVIEWS**

(Driver/Passenger/Witness)

Pg 4 of 10

COLLISION LOCATION				DATE	TIME
1100 Sea World Drive				7-4-90	2230
DRIVER NAME OCCUP.  WIT.	ADDRES	Ś			PHONE HOME
VEH. #	I				PHONE WORK
This interview was conducted over	r the telepho	one on 7-	9-90 at appro	oximately	
1410 hours. stated essential	ly the follow	wing:			
I was with . We were on Sea	World Drive	heading t	towards the	freeway.	I was about
10:30 PM. It was after the fireworks	and traffic	was real	lly backed up	o. I was i	in the fast
lane, (N-1). I had my windows down.	I saw flash	ing lights	. I did not	hear a si	iren.
The police car was going about 50 mph.	. I heard a	skid and	saw them hit	the islar	nd. They
went airborne. When they hit the grou	and two hubca	aps came o	off the car.	I thought	they
might have hit a sign, but I can't swe	ear to it.				
(AT THIS POINT I HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO I	LOCATE AND IN	VTERVIEW	)		
DRIVER NAME					
DRIVER NAME OCCUP. WIT.	ADDRESS		:		PHONE HOME
/EH. #		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			PHONE WORK
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		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			H. & R. NO.
67.	I.D. NUMBER	DIVISION	DATE AND TIME	1000	
Richard M. O'HANLON, Sergeant	2699	N-9	7-28-90	1800	
D-156A (Rev. 1-87) (USE ANOTHER FORM 156A I	IF ADDITIONAL SF	ACE NEEDED	FOR INTERVIEWS	3)	

## **COLLISION SUMMARY**

Pg 5 of 10

collision location 1100 Sea World Drive			7-4-90	2230
PERSON CITED	DATE OF BIRTH	CHARGE		PPEARANCE DATE
PERSON CITED	DATE OF BIRTH	CHARGE	AF	PPEARANCE DATE
OFFICER'S CONCLUSIONS: (SUMMARIZE THE COLL. INV. WITH A V	VORD PICTURE. INCLUDE	ALL EVIDENCE NECESSARY TO	SUPPORT CHAF	RGE.)
Officer John C. SMITH #4047 was driving Unit	#1207, a mar	ked police sedan,	, Califor	nia
license E091830. Officer Peter J. CARUSO #4	009 was the p	assenger officer.		
SMITH was driving e/b on Sea World Drive at	approximate	ly 2230 hours.		
The weather was cool and clear. The roadway	surfaces wer	e free from visal	ole debri	.S.
Traffic was very heavy due to the holiday an	d associated	firework displays	5. 1100	
Gea World Drive is a two-laned roadway. At	the time of t	his incident both	n of the	
e/b lanes were full of traffic.				
SMITH was enroute to the Northern substation	n to secure f	rom his shift.	SMITH	
activated his rear amber and front red light	. SMITH drov	e into the simula	ated isla	and
to avoid the traffic congestion. SMITH woul	d occasionall	y tap his vehicle	e's sirer	ı.
SMITH was not responding to any emergency ra	ndio call.			
As SMITH was driving e/b through the island	he approached	a 12" raised cer	nter	
median. SMITH was driving approximately 30	mph at this p	oint. SMITH was	driving	at
too great a speed to avoid striking the isla	and. SMITH at	tempted evasive	action by	y
braking. SMITH's vehicle left 30 feet of lo	ocked wheel sk	aid prior to stri	king the	island.
MITH struck the raised island. The force	of the impac	t caused the veh	icle to l	
airborne. The vehicle travelled approximate	ely 20 feet be	efore landing on	the	H. & R. NO
				No.
Richard M. O'HANLON, Sergeant 2699	N-9	7-28-90 1800		
WAS ANOTHER SOULES AND THE SOULES AN	CDACE IS MEEDED FOR SI	, IMMADVINADDATIVE)		

## **COLLISION SUMMARY**

Pg \_ (e of 10

1100 Sea World Drive					7-4-90	2230
OFFICER'S CONCLUSIONS: (SUMMARIZE THE COLL. IN	IV. WITH A WORD PIC	TURE. INCLUDE	ALL EVIDENCE	IECESSARY T	O SUPPORT CHARGE	I.) .
raised median.		,				
Gouge marks were found at the point of	impact and	on the n	nedian whe	re the	undercarri	age
struck the median. SMITH continued to da	rive on the	e median	until he	reached	the I-5 o	ff-ramp
traffic signal. SMITH drove off the med	dian and p	roceeded	n/b on	I-5.		
SMITH drove the vehicle to the Northern	station w	nere he p	parked the	vehic1	e adjacent	M
the the car wash. SMITH and CARUSO exam	mined the	vehicle l	out indica	ted tha	t they did	
not notice any damage.						
Larage mechanic atter	mpted to d	rive Uni	#1207 a	t 0700	on 7-5-90.	
noticed that the vehicle A diffic	cult to st	eer and	that the r	earview	w mirror wa	S
missing. Unit 1207 was placed on a hoist						
included a cracked right turn lens , dar	maged oil	pan, dama	aged stabi	lizer b	pars, both	front
rims were bent and dents to the hood from	om the eng	ine stri	king it.			
Traffic Officers D. JENNES #3594, S.THO						
to Northern Division on 7-6-90 when Off						+
the individuals who were in Unit 1207 w						QN,
JENNES, SMITH, CAURO and myself went to			ive where	the co.	llision	
scene was located. This was on 7-6-90	at 2100 ho	urs.	··· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
		ma (TENNI	EC and TU	MDCONI	that they	were
Officers SMITH and CARUSO told the traf						Mere
responding to a "COVER NOW" call at De						-
told JENNES that he was driving through	I.D. NUMBER	DIVISION	DATE AND TIME		- eracing	-
Richard M. O'HANLON, Sergeant	2699	N-9	7-28-90	1800	V 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10	=

## **COLLISION SUMMARY**

1100 Sea World Drive			7 - 4 - 90	2230
ISON CITED	DATE OF BIRTH	CHARGE	. APF	PEARANCE DATE
SON CITED	DATE OF BIRTH	CHARGE	APF	PEARANCE DATE
OFFICER'S CONCLUSIONS: (SUMMARIZE THE CO	OLL. INV. WITH A WORD PICTURE; INCLU	DE <b>ALL</b> EVIDENCE NECESSA	ARY TO SUPPORT CHARG	6E.)
his emergency lights and siren whe	en he struck the rais	ed median. SMI	TH and CARUS	0
told the investigating units that t	the collision occurre	d at approximat	ely 1800	
hours.				
Further investigation revealed that	t the collision occur	red at 2230 hou	ırs: Officer	
SMITH was not properly operating hi	is emergency equipmer	t when the coll	ision occurr	ed.
				<del></del>
(THE COLLISION DIAGRAM FROM THE IN	ITIAL REPORT, DATED 7	-6-90 BY OFFICE	ER THO MPSON #	3746
IS ACCURATE AS TO THE ICP AND MEASU	JREMENTS. IT WILL AI	SO BE USED IN 7	THIS REPORT)	
				Д , 26 , 27
				H. & R. NO.

## **COLLISION SUMMARY**

Pg 8 of 10

COLLISION LOCATION	DATE	TIME
OFFICER'S CONCLUSIONS: (SUMMARIZE THE COLL. INV. WITH A WORD PICTURE. INCLUDE ALL EVIDENCE NECESSARY TO S	SUPPORT CHARGE.	]
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NOT (MI)		
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	<u></u>	
PORTING OFFICER I.D. NUMBER DIVISION DATE AND TIME		
-156 (Rev. 9-87) (USE ANOTHER FORM 156 IF ADDITIONAL SPACE IS NEEDED FOR SUMMARY MARRATUSE)		
-156 (Rev. 9-87) (USE ANOTHER FORM 156 IF ADDITIONAL SPACE IS NEEDED FOR SUMMARY/NARRATIVE)		

SAN DIEGO POLICE DEPARTMENT Collision Diagram COLLISION LOCATION 1100 SEA WORLD DR DATE 7/9/90 TIME 180/ DIAGRAM NOT TO SCALE 1E1> \F17 1100 SEA WORLD DR. (P) (RL) GOULE FROM PI'S UNDERCARIZIACE 273 LockeD STOPPED VEHICLES WHEEL SKID 30" Locked WHEEL SKID 128/19/0

DATE & TIME OF REPORT 7/7/90 1355

\_\_ OFFICER(S)

S. THOMPSON

# 3746

			9-30					_ Serring	P	AGE _/	D_OF_/C
Sk	(ID-SPEED	INFORMA	rioN		··········	SKID DA	TA	)		TRIFUGAL	
DE	ESCRIPTION	N OF ROAL	YAWC		V-1	V-2		/-3	MARKU	SED:	
TYPE OF RO	AD/CONDIT	10N:	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	RF	·	RF	RF		LENGTH		
ROAD CONS	TRUCTION:			RR		RR	RR		CHORD:		
DIRECTION/	GRADE:			LF		LF	LF		MIDDLE ORDINATE:		
D.11,201.7				LR	<b></b>	LR	LR		MIDDLE	ORDINATE	. <b>.</b>
TEST SKID	INFORMA	TION			TIME	OF TEST:					
NO. SPEED	L.F.	R.F.	L.F.	R.R.		TI	EST VEHICL				
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			-		RADAR	NO. CALIB		1	0	PERATOR	<del></del>
3					TEST C	OORDINATO	TERNAL C	TUNING		DIVIS	ION:
4	DMATION		· .		<u> </u>						
TIRE INFO						TEST VEHIC	CLE				
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PHOTOS TAKEN?		• *	.AROID:			HOW WAS I.C	.P. ESTABLIS	HED?:			
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SYMBOL	S		FORMULA	S	CENTRIFUGAL SCUFF EXAMPLE
<pre>### Consider The Consider</pre>	g = GRAVITATIONAL , CONSTANT (22, 2785 ) C = CHORD M = MIDDLE ORDINATE R = RADIUS	$\mathcal{U} = \frac{V^2}{2gd}$ $V = \sqrt{2g\mathcal{U}d}$	$R = \frac{C}{8M} + \frac{M}{2}$ $V = \sqrt{R_g \chi}$	$\frac{\text{FPSX15}}{22} = \text{MPH}$ $\frac{\text{MPHX22}}{15} = \text{FPS}$	ARC SHAPED SCUFF MARK 25 FT. CHORD MIDDLE ORDINATE



# SUPERVISORS VEHICLE ACCIDE:

ORIGINAL - SAFETY DIVISION MS 27A
YELLOW - CLAIMS MS 51B
GREEN - ORIGINATING DEPT.

d		1. EMPLOYEE NAME (PRINT	LAST, FIRST, M.I.,	2. 500	IAL SECURITY NUM	BER 3. DEPT.	/DIVISION	4. DATE OF ACCIDENT
4		SMITH, John C.				Polic	e-Northern	MO, I DAY I VE
	7	5. JOB CLASSIFICATION	6. EMPLOY	EE STA	TUS: SEASONAL	7, EMPLOY	EE WORKING OVER	07 04 90°
	INFORMATION	Police Officer II	Tarrent a min co		477	OCCURR	ED7	
1	ΑŦ	8. TIME IN CLASSIFICATION	9. EMPLOYED WIT	H CITY:	10. EXPERIENCE W	TH VEHICLE:	11, CITY VEHICLE	CALL BACK X
ı	Σ	LESS THAN 30 DAYS	LESS THAN 1 YEA		IN TRAINING		YES (	1207 (1) NUMBER
	O.	1 TO 3 MONTHS  4 MOS. TO 1 YEAR	1 TO 5 YEARS 6 TO 10 YEARS	<b>⊠</b>	LESS THAN 3 M	os. 🖂	13. VEHICLE SIZE	& TYPE (EX. 34 TON P/U
	F Z	1 TO 5 YEARS	OVER 10 YEARS		4 MOS. TO 1 YEA	XR 🗆	4 door seda	
		OVER 5 YEARS			OVER 5 YEARS			& YEAR (E.G.FORD/1969)
	EHICLE	IS ACTION OF CITY VEWS					1988 Ford	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
	Ξ	15. ACTION OF CITY VEHICL	E: (CHECK ALL THA LEFT TURI				16. ACCIDE	NT SITE:
	5	STOPPED IN TRAFFIC PREPARING TO STOP	RIGHT TUE	RN C	OTHER (BE	SPECIFIC)	STREET	OFF ROAD
	AND	STARTING IN TRAFFIC	U-TURN ROLLAWA	Y [				LANDFILL
	. )	MOVING FORWARD	BACKING				BEACH [	CITY YARD
	E E						PHEEWAY L	OTHER
	MPLOYEE	17. DAMAGE TO: (CHECK ALL APPLY)	THAT 18. INJURIE	s:	19. TYPE OF RESPO		20. ACCIDENT	PROPERLY REPORTED
	P.	CITY VEHICLE	NONE		21.AT TIME OF ACC	NON-EMER.	d Vec	
	E	OTHER VEHICLE	CITIZEN		WITHIN 30 DAYS	L 6 MOS.	TO I YEAR XX	OVER 5 YEARS
		CITY PROPERTY	вотн		22. LOCATION OF AC	CIDENT:	YEARS []	23. TIME OF DAY
L	_				1100 Sea Worl	d Drive		40 -0 -
		DESCRIBE HOW ACCIDENT OC CONDITIONS, EQUIPMENT MA	CURRED, INCLUDE	ANY V	101	OR DEPT. POL	ICY; ACTION OF O	THER VEHICLE BOAD
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			SEE ATTA	ACHED	REPORT			
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	-  -	THIS REPORT IS A	REVISION OF T	THE SI	UPERVISOR'S RE	PORT SUBM	ITTED 07-07-	90.
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	P	RIMARY CAUSE OF ACCIDENT	T (WHY DID THE AC					
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REVENTION	-							
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N	TC1	ard M. O HANLON, Sen	rgeant	CHONE	¥€	APPOINTING	AUTHORITY:	DATE:
		(Rev. 1-88)						

#### SAN DIEGO POLICE DEPARTMENT INVESTIGATOR'S REPORT

DATE (occurr.): July 4, 1990

TIME (occurr.): 2230 hours

LOCATION:

1100 Sea World Drive

SUBJECT:

Supervisor's Investigation of Police Equipment Collision

Officer John C. SMITH #4047 was driving police equipment number 1207 on July 4, 1990. Officer Peter J. CARUSO #4009 was the passenger officer.

Officers SMITH and CARUSO were headed to the Northern Division substation to secure from their shift. Traffic was extremely congested on Sea World Drive due to the holiday and associated firework displays. Traffic for both lanes of eastbound Sea World Drive basically gridlocked.

SMITH was proceeding eastbound on Sea World Drive. As SMITH encountered the congestion he drove into the simulated center is and. The island is delineated by double yellow lines. As SMITH entered the island he activated his rear flashing yellow light and front red light of the vehicle's overhead light bar. SMITH was driving approximately 30-35 mph at this point. This was at 2230 hours.

SMITH was NOT responding to an emergency radio call or any other call for service.

As SMITH proceeded through the island he encountered a raised ashaltic center median. SMITH was drving too fast to avoid striking this median. The front of Unit #1207 struck the median. SMTIH and CARUSO were travelling with sufficiant speed to cause the vehicle to become airborne. The vehicle travelled for approximately 20 feet befor landing on the median.

The force of the landing caused the vehicle to "bottom out". This action caused the undercarriage to strike the median. SMITH proceeded through the median. SMITH drove off of the median and took the northbound I-5 onramp. SMITH drove Unit #1207 to Northern where he parked it near the car wash.

Both CARUSO and SMITH stated that they examined the vehicle for damage when they arrived at Northern. Both CARUSO and SMITH stated that they did not see any damage. CARUSO and SMITH stated that the steering of the vehicle was "off" as they were driving to the substation. This was at approximately 2300 hours.

On Thursday morning, 07-05-90, at approximately 0700 hours, Northern Division garage personnel located the damaged vehicle. Lieutenant R. JAMES #1469 was advised of the damaged vehicle shortly after its discovery.

Equipment number 1207 is a pool car that is normally assigned to the Northern Division Beach Enforcement Team.

On Thursday morning, 07-05-90, Lieutenant JAMES contacted me and advised me of the damaged vehicle. I recall seeing SMITH and CARUSO drving a black and white sedan the evening of July 4th. I do not recall the equipment number. SMITH and CARUSO were off on 07-05-90

Reporting Officer_RIC	lard M. O'HANLON, Sergeant	I.D. # 2699	_Division	N-B.E.T.
Approved By	Date of this report	t 07-29-90	_Time 120	00
PD-1534 /11-771				

## SAN DIEGO POLICE DÉPARTMENT INVESTIGATOR'S REPORT

DATE (occurr.): 07-04-90

TIME (occurr.): 2230 hours

LOCATION:

1100 Sea World Drive

SUBJECT:

Police Equipment Collision-page two

On 07-06-90 I was in the process of trying to locate SMITH and CARUSO's Daily Activity Journal for 07-04-90. I could not locate this document. During briefing I asked CARUSO and SMITH where the journal was. They stated that they had accidentally left the journal at the lifeguard station on 07-04-90. I instructed them to locate the journal and bring it to me immediately after they located it. (This document would contain the vehicle number that SMITH and CARUSO were driving on 07-04-90.)

I saw SMITH and CARUSO talking to a mechanic at the garage area. Unit 1207 up on the rack while SMITH and CARUSO were talking to the mechanic. SMITH stated at this point, "I guess I really damaged the car." This was at approximately 1820 hours.

A Traffic unit and supervisor responded to Northern. These officers were D. JENNES #3594 and S. THOMPSON #3746. Traffic Sergeant W. CLEM #1184 also responded to Northern Division.

The damage to Unit 1207 includes but is not limited to the following: bent front rims, broken gear shift indicator, fractured right turn lens, front bumper damage, hood damage, and substantial engine, frame and undercarriage damage.

The collision scene was located at 1100 Sea World Drive. The initial contact point was determined by the gouge mark found on the raised ashalt median.

Officers SMITH and CARUSO told the traffic units that they were reponding to a "COVER NOW" call at De Anza Cove at approximately 1800 hours when they struck the median. SMITH stated that he was driving with his emergency equipment activiated. Officer CARUSO verified this statement. Both CARUSO and SMITH wrote written reports, ARJIS 9's, about how the accident happened. These reports were included in the collision report made by Officers JENNES and THOMPSON.

Subsequent investigation revealed that SMITH and CARUSO's verbal and written statements as to the time and manner of the accident were untruthful.

I have prepared an "AMENDED" collision report which will be forwarded.

Reporting Officer RIChard M. O'HNALON

Based on the damage to Unit 1207 and the damage located at the collision scene the following conclusion is reached:

Officer John C. SMITH #4047 was driving in an unauthorized manner, yellow and red lights only, when he struck the raised center median. Officer SMITH gave an untruthful statment to myself, verbal and written, and to the traffic officers as to the time and manner of the collision. Officer SMITH was driving a police unit in an unsafe manner to avoid traffic congestion while enroute to secure him shift. SMITH was not reponding to an emergency or any other call

ALCHEIL III O III III	,,borgound		11 0000	DIVISI	on Total I
Approved By	Date of this report_	07-	29-90	Time	1200

District N-R F T

## SAN DIEGO POLICE DEPARTMENT INVESTIGATOR'S REPORT

DATE (occurr.): July 4, 1990

TIME (occurr.): 2230 hours

LOCATION: 1100 Sea World Drive

SUBJECT: Police Equipment Collision-page three

when the collision occurred. Officer SMITH was also untruthful as to the time and manner of the collision on form RM-1551 (Vehicle Damage Report). Based on the damage to Unit 1207 Officer SMITH should have reasonably know that he was involved in a police equipment collision. SMITH failed to properly report the accident to a police supervisor according to established police proceedures.

Officer CARUSO gave untruthful statements, verbal and written, to myself and the traffic officers. Officer CARUSO should have reasonably known that he and his partner, John SMITH, were involved in a police equipment collision and should have reported the collision to a police supervisor. CARUSO's untruthful statements were given on 07-06-90, when the initial police equipment collision report was completed.

Reporting Officer KIChard M.O'HANLON	Jod. Sergeant	I.D. # 2699	_Division N-B.E.T.
Approved By	Date of this report	t 07-29-90	Time 1200
PD:1534 (11-77)			

#### CITY of SAN DIEGO MEMORANDUM

FILE NO:

385

DATE:

August 1, 1990

TO:

Sergeant R. O'Hanlon, Northern Division

FROM:

Detective J. A. Stewart, Traffic Investigations

SUBJECT:

RE: Equipment #1207

On July 11, 1990, I inspected Police Equipment #1207 at the request of Sergeant R. O'Hanlon. The purpose of the inspection was to determine if the damage to this car was of the nature that would be readily apparent to the driver. In addition Sergeant O'Hanlon asked me to see if I could find any damage that was consistent with the car hitting a metal sign pole.

The damage to this car was rather severe. The force of the impact dislodged the motor from its mounts, forcing it up and causing two (2) dents in the hood. The suspension and transmission linkage also sustained severe damage. After inspecting the car I formed the opinion that it would be reasonable to conclude any driver would be aware of the damage.

I did not find any damage that would be consistent with impacting a sign pole.

Sergeant O'Hanlon and I went to the collision scene. There I found gouges in the raised asphaltic concrete island that were consistent with the damage on Unit 1207. There was a portion of metal sign post on the island that was in the path of the car. The break in this portion was old as evidenced by an accumulation of dirt and rust. It is my opinion, this sign pole was not involved in this incident. When I completed the inspection I photographed the scene and gave the film to Sergeant O'Hanlon.

Detective J. A. Stewart Traffic Investigation Unit

JS:1k

CITY VEHICLE

OTHER VEHICLE, PROPERTY OR PARTY

WITNESS

ACCIDENT DESCRIPTION

#### CITY OF SAN DIEGO

ORIGINAL									SAFET
GREEN , .									CLAIM
YELLOW .		D	E	Ь.	Γ.,	/c	1	v.	RETAIL

ALL DAMAGE MUST BE		The state of the s	**********	YELLOY	V DEPT./DIV. RETAIN
IMMEDIATE SUPERVISOR	VEH	HCLE DAMAGE RE	PORT	CITY FI	LE NO,
DEPARTMENT AND DIVISION		TELEPHONE	DATE OF	ACCIDENT	TIME OF ACCIDENT
POLICE NORTHERN		ADDRESS	7-4-	op.	TELEPHONE
	<u>سر</u>				TELEPHONE
DRIVERS LICENSE NO. LICENSE	TYPE	LICENSE EXPIRATI	ATE MALL	SIFICATION	DATE OF BIRTH
		DATE	PA	π	
SOCIAL SECURITY NO. DESCRIB	E ANY INJURY	TO CITY OPERATOR, IF A	NY, AND FILE FOI	RM ES-1531A - EMPI	LOYEE INJURY REPORT
CITY VEHICLE NO.   VEHICLE MAKE	ONB	IV & A PO			
10.0		YEAR	BODY TYPE		
CHECK HOW DAMAGE OCCURRED:		DESCRIBE DAMAGE (BE	4 DR		
□ VANDALISM □ UNKNOW	N	DAMAGE TO		から	
VEHICLE ACCIDENT   INDUSTR	IAL ACCIDENT	113011116	0/0/0/2/2/200	•	
☐ OTHER					
PASSENGER					
1 21 2	DDRESS	IGATE MALL	TELEPHONE	INJURY	(FILE FORM ES-1531A)
PASSENGER	DDRESS	WALL MALL	TELEPHONE	INJURY	(FILE FORM ES-1531A)
<u> </u>					·
NAME OF DRIVER	AGE	ADDRESS		TELEPHONE	DRIVERS LICENSE NO
D.C. C. C. C. C. C. W. L. C.					
REGISTERED OWNER	1	DDRESS		TELEPHONE	VEHICLE LICENSE NO
ME OF INSURANCE CARRIER	v	EHICLE MAKE		BODY TYPE	YEAR
DRIVER'INJURY	V	EHICLE DAMAGE - DESCR	BE		
INJURED PASSENGER OR PEDESTRIAN A				-	
3.	JE ADDRESS		TELEPHONE	INJURY	PASS-
INJURED PASSENGER OR PEDESTRIAN A	GE ADDRESS		TELEPHONE	INJURY	PED.
А.					PASS. FED.
INJURED PASSENGER OR PEDESTRIAN A	SE ADDRESS		TELEPHONE	INJURY	PASS.
NON-VEHICULAR DAMAGE - DESCRIBE -	LOCATION				PED.
OWNER	. A	DDRESS		TELEPH	ONE
					-
NAME	ADDRESS		TELEPHONE		CATION AT TIME OF
NAME	ADDRESS	2	771 271	PED,	
	ADDA E OG		TELEPHONE	PASS.	CATION AT TIME OF CIDENT
L OCATION OF ACCIONA					
LOCATION OF ACCIDENT	MONIE D	3/	-	FOLICE AGENC	Y INVESTIGATING
DESCRIPT HOW DAMAGE GOODING	WILL FOR FOR			5/2/2	1 201

LOCATION OF ACCIDENT
1100SEX WORLD DESCRIBE HOW DAMAGE OCCURRED - USE ADDITIONAL PAPER IF NEEDED, DRAW AND INCLUDE DIAGRAM IF IT WILL HELP YOU EXPLAIN CIRCUMSTANCES. I WAS PRIVING ON SEA WORLD PRIVE PB ON THE CENTER ISLAND AROUND TRAFFIC WHEN HIT A RAISED CENTER FSLAND. I DID NOT SER THE CENTER ESLAND. I HIT THE CURIS FOING ABOUT 30 M? H.

	CLT./	OBL.	R	AΡ	Α	RES.
1						
2						
3.						
4						
5						
6						

A.R.B.

INFO. CARRIER

PLEASE DO NOT WRITE IN THIS BLOCK



CITY MANAGER
VEHICLE COLLISION REVIEW
AND PREVENTION PROGRAM
REPORT

POLICE/NORTHERN ROUTING:

DEPT./DIVISION

DUE: 09-15-90

ROUTING:
CHAIRPERSON FORWARDS TO
APPOINTING AUTHORITY FOR
ACTION, WHO FORWARDS TO

#90-207 TRA

TRAFFIC

APPOINTING AUTHORITY FOR ACTION, WHO FORWARDS TO DEPT. HEAD FOR REVIEW. DEPT. HEAD FORWARDS TO

DEPT. HEAD SIGNATURE/DATE

				T	TANAAA SSIDENT						
	NAME OF EMPLOYEE (LAST, FIRST, M.I.	)	ACCIDENT DATE	DATE OF REVIEW	REPORTED YES NOX						
	SMITH, John #4047	Ture even ov	07-04-90	08-15-90	PROPERLY EN TRAINED IN CITY-WIDE						
-	DOES THE EMPLOYEE POSSESS A CITY DRIVER'S LICENSE?	TY HAS EMPLOYEE BEEN AUTHORIZED TO DRIVE THIS VEHICLE?  HAS EMPLOYEE BEEN TRAINED IN CITY-W POLICIES AND PROCEDURES AS PER A.R. 7									
	YES 🗆 NO 🖽X	YES	s XX NO□	YES	XX NO []						
	BRIEFLY DESCRIBE HOW AND WHY THE	ACCIDENT OCC	URRED, INCLUDE EMPLO	YEE AND/OR SUPERV	SORY FAILURE WHICH MAY						
A	HAVE CONTRIBUTED, NOTE ANY FAIL										
AT	Officer SMITH was the driver of a marked police, (Equipment #1207). The passenger was Officer Peter CARUSO #4009. The officers were enroute to the Northern Area										
ED	Station at the end of th	nair shift	Recause of the	1th of July fir	eworks vehicular						
2	congection northbound la	ines of Sea	World Dr. were b	locked with stu	p and go trailic.						
M	SMITH activated his over	head emerg	ency lights and em	ntered the cent	er Island with the						
OM	intent of passing the co	undested tr	affic to travel no	orthbound on 1-	D. SMITH Mas						
EVIEW COMMITTEE DATA	driving at an estimated center island. His veh	thirty (30	) miles per nour v	when he corride he collision.	The undercarriage						
ΛE	custained extensive dama	age. The o	fficers initially	tailed to repo	rit the damage.						
RE	After being confronted t	they told t	he investigating (	officer the col	11s1on occurred						
	earlier in their shift a	as they wer	e responding Code	3 to a cover o	all. An amended						
	report was prepared by	their immed	iate supervisor.								
	į.										
				The same of the sa							
	PRIMARY CAUSE OF ACCIDENT										
	Speed				, .						
S			CATEGORY 1 NO VEHICLE INDUSTRIAL INCIDEN								
FINDINGS	NON-PREVENTABLE [	PREVEN	TABLE CATEGORY:	ACCHIEN	NT OTHER						
Ö	CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATION	45:			C 1						
ũ.	and willfully disregarded the salety of										
	the other motorists on the roadway. He violated Dept. Procedures 1.13 III, B, 2 & 3. when he activated his emergency lights and drove in the painted center island to drive										
	when he activated his e around the congested tr	mergency in affic.	gires and drove in	one parmosa o							
	a round the congested to	4,1101									
->	LIST ALL ACCIDENTS (EXCLUDING NVA	'S) EMPLOYEE H	IAS BEEN INVOLVED IN W	ITHIN LAST 3 YEARS	CHAIRPERSON SIGNATURE/D						
ACCIDENT HISTORY	11-17-87 Preventable (	Category 1	Two hour driving	class.							
STE	08-03-89 Preventable	Category 1	Warning.								
ĄΞ	01-05-90 Non-Prevental	ore.									
	PLEASE INDICATE ALL MEASURES TA CATEGORY AND DISCIPLINARY ACTION	KEN TO PREVEN	IT RECURRENCE, IF PREV	ENTABLE, PROVIDE							
	CATEGORY AND DISCIPLINARY ACTION SECTION 7.3 OF A.R. 75.12 SHOULD BE RE-F		A TING CHOOMS I ANDES M								
	IF THIS IS EMPLOYEE'S FIRST PREVENTABLE	E ACCIDENT IN T	HREE YEARS WAS TRAINING	YES NO	I HAVE REVIEWED THIS						
	OPTION OFFERED? IF NOT, EXPLAIN.	-			REPORT IN ACCORDANCE						
1.4					WITH A.R. 75,12.						
ON	E										
ACTION											
$\triangleleft$											

APPOINTING AUTHORITY/DATE

#### CITY of SAN DIEGO MEMORANDUM

FILE NO:

430

DATE:

9-28-90

TO:

John C. Smith, Police Officer II, I.D. #4047

FROM:

James B. Sing, Commanding Officer, Northern Division

SUBJECT:

Notice of Departmental Appeal Rights

After consideration of the information provided during your Skelly interview on WAIVED SKELLY, I have decided to forward my recommendation for your 20 DAY SUSPENSION to the Chief of Police. You have the right to appeal the recommended discipline to the Chief of Police prior to any disciplinary action being taken. In order to appeal, you must submit a written appeal to the Chief's Office within three (3) working days of receipt of this notice. Failure to make written appeal within the three day period will be deemed a waiver of your right to appeal this disciplinary action within the Department.

sing, commanding Officer

This Notice of Departmental Appeal Procedure was handed to me in the presence of LT Gollifon on 9-29-90. I have been given full explanation as to my right of appeal within the Department and instructions on how to proceed. Receipt of this memorandum is acknowledged.

Employee's Signature